

# COUNTY LINES



## FEBRUARY 2005

### TCOB MEETINGS

#### Commissioners

2/7 10:00 am Tippecanoe Room  
2/22 10:00 am Tippecanoe Room

#### Council

2/8 2:00 pm Tippecanoe Room

#### Department Heads

2/9 Noon Tippecanoe Room



### ANNIVERSARIES:

#### 15 YEARS

Dennis Smith  
George Ross

#### 10 YEARS

Rita Darnell

#### 5 YEARS

Gregory Potts  
Peggy Richardson



## THANK YOU!!!

**REQUEST from MAINTENANCE:** Let's cut out the middle person! In order to be more efficient, PLEASE, contact our custodial or maintenance staff directly instead of calling the Commissioners' Office.

### MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

	EXT	SITE	CELL PHONE
<b>MIKE HAAN, DIRECTOR</b>	341 @	629	404-9556
<b>MIKE RUSSELL, ASSIST.</b>	774 @	629	426-3731

  

	EXT	SITE	PAGER
<b>DAYS</b>			
<b>KATHY RAMEY</b>	774 @	629	428-5519 digital
<b>DENNIS CHAPMAN</b>	211 @	CH	428-5525 digital
<b>PENNY HUFFMAN</b>	201 @	CH	428-5534 voice
<b>PENNY HUFFMAN</b>	301 @	TCOB	428-5534 voice
<b>BRIAN CRAMMER</b>	118 @	TCOB	428-5529 digital

### NIGHTS

	EXT	SITE	PAGER
<b>HAZEL ZETTEE</b>	none @	CH	428-5521 digital
<b>JERRY SCHUH</b>	301 @	TCOB	428-5524 digital

**Please, note that some of the pagers are digital and some are voice. Mike Haan and Mike Russell have cell phones.**

Do you have a suggestion or two for how County Government may be more efficient or helpful? Drop your idea(s) in the nearest suggestion box--signed or not.

### Kan u spayel? The Lafayette Adult Resource Academy

presents the **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Spelling Bee for Literacy** fundraiser. **Court Services** has again generously offered to sponsor County Employee Teams. Save the date, Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Talk to your coworkers about the possibility of participating in this worthy cause. Each team consists of 3 spellers. All team members may collaborate on the spelling of the word when it is given. One person will spell it. All team members will spell on a rotating basis. 1<sup>st</sup> place team will receive an engraved plaque for each member, and many other items. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams will also receive prizes. The deadline for team registration is February 14<sup>th</sup>. Email or call Linda Horton if interested.

**COUNTY OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>**

**FYI:** As many of you long-time employees know, the County Government is required to publish the names and compensation paid to each employee in the previous calendar year. For those of you don't know, please be aware that this information is public record and Indiana Code 36-2-2-19 requires it. The notice will be published in the near future.

## Parking Garage Information

Please, let us know if you

- 1) have a new car and/or license plate
- 2) change your name
- 3) want to buy a reserved space
- 4) lost your card

It is very important to return your parking pass to HR on your last day of work. You will continue to be charged for parking until the card is returned. If the card is not returned, you will be charged a lost card fee of \$10.00.

Envelopes are provided in **HR**. Please stop in and pick one up before your last day of work.



Our **2005 Riverfest** featuring Dragonboat Races on the Wabash is just 5 months away, July 9th. If you would consider paddling on our County Employee Chinese Dragonboat Team, email Linda Horton. If you are not certain and want to know more about it, ask a previous team member: Ann Wagner, Brenda Moore, Christa Coffey, Carla Stearns, Chris Chapman, Chris Remley, Chris Brophy, Greg Frantz, Jack Fisher, Jan Payne, Jason Huber, Jennifer Weston, John Burns, John Meyers, John Knochel, Krista Trout, Kathy Gray, Kathy Moore, Kathy Vernon, Mike Haan, Mindy Anderson, Rob Rush, Teresa Duncan, Tim Wells, Smokey Anderson, and Zach Beasley.

46 DAYS UNTIL SPRING



### INTER-OFFICE MAIL:

Please designate INTER-OFFICE mail by placing these items in an inter-office envelope or by stamping these items with the **BIG RED INTER-OFFICE mail stamp** (located near the drop off tub in the mailroom). INTER-OFFICE mail should not be bundled with other items but should be left loose in the collection tubs.

You may find it more convenient to purchase your own **BIG RED INTER-OFFICE mail stamp**.

Awards Unlimited has a very nice model of the **BIG RED INTER-OFFICE stamp** for around \$11.00. You may contact the mailroom if you have any questions. Call 251 or email Jim. [jsiemer@county.tippecanoe.in.us](mailto:jsiemer@county.tippecanoe.in.us)

According to Public Health Nurse, **Marcia Muller**, the Health Department has obtained additional flu shots. They will give them to any adult; the cost is a blue light special of **\$10.00**. Wednesday (2/2/05) is a **Walk-in Clinic** for kids' shots, but **you** may come that day between 8:30-11:00 or 1:00-3:30. Your other options are 1-4:00 Thursday (2/3) or 8-11:30 Friday (2/4). Questions, call the Health Department at 221.



Don't forget your valentine!

## MEMO from HUMAN RESOURCES

The County is hosting a **Benefit Fair** February 23rd from 9-4 in the Tippecanoe Room, TCOB. Most of our benefit providers will be present. This will be an opportunity to meet the providers of your benefits, to learn more about your benefits, and to ask that lingering question.

**Give-aways and door prizes** throughout the day.

### ATTENTION EMPLOYEES WHO RESIDE & LIVE DOWNTOWN:

According to Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association, if you live **and** work within the Lafayette Urban Enterprise Zone, you may be entitled to a **state income tax deduction**. If so, you may deduct ½ of your income earned, up to \$7,500, whichever is less. At the current tax rate, this could be worth up to \$255! You may only deduct the wages you have earned while working **and** residing in the zone. In order to claim this benefit, you must attach Form IT-40QEC (completed by your employer) to your state tax return and enter amount as "Other Indiana Deduction". **HR** has the certificate. For more information: [www.luea.org](http://www.luea.org)

### FLEX BENEFITS:

You have until March 31, 2005 to file a Flexible Spending Account Reimbursement Claim for unreimbursed medical expenses for 2004. The claim needs to be the FBA office by March 31st. If you need a claim form, contact **HR**.

**GOOD NEWS!** Our Microsoft Public Bulletin Board has a page for GOOD NEWS that will be updated on a regular basis. Email your good news to Linda Horton, as she is happy to post it for you. Check it out.



January '05 County Lines mentioned *briefly* that **Ron Dye** was retiring as Superintendent of our County Parks and Recreation after nearly 32 years.

And now, the rest of the story...

Ron Dye began his career with Tippecanoe County on April 1, 1973, being hired to work maintenance. The maintenance hub was a shed at Mar Len Park. Ron has the distinction of buying the department's first paintbrush.

On August 15, 1974, Ron was named Superintendent of the Park Department. This occurred after the then director walked into the office, laid his keys on the table and announced he was quitting his job.

When Ron began as Superintendent, the Park Department consisted of the Jackson, Romney, Buck Creek Community Centers, Mar Len Park, 8.9 acres at Fort Ouiatenon, and the Tippecanoe Battlefield. At that time the park system consisted of approximately 200 acres. Through Ron's vision and leadership, the current park department now owns and manages 1,286 acres.

During Ron's career, there have been a variety of experiences. He is credited with burning up the recreational van known as Franky the Funmobile, he has had to check the underneath of his car for explosives during the time the Board was attempting to float a bond issue to build the Wabash Heritage Trail, he has never learned how to spell the word "writing", still insisting it would be spelled w-r-i-t-t-i-n-g.

But, as he leaves his tenure with Tippecanoe County, Ron should be proud of the park system he has created. He will be the first to say he didn't do it alone. He has led a professional staff and instilled in them a pride for what they do. He has secured grants from federal and state sources that have enhanced the department's budget, worked with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources in partnership to develop Wildcat Park and Fairfield Lakes. Cooperative efforts with the Tippecanoe County Historical Association, soccer leagues, softball leagues, township government and West Lafayette Park Department have led to significant growth in resources.

We wish Ron well as he leaves behind a legacy of conservation and preservation for the future generations.



## RE: CONFERENCE ROOMS in TCOB

If you would like to know whether a room is available or to confirm your room reservation, in Outlook, go to Public Folders/All Public Folders/Conference Rooms Calendar/TCOB Meeting Rooms